

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/030,262

Examiner

Lakshmi S. Channavajjala

Applicant(s)

CRIERE ET AL.

Art Unit

1615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4-13-06; 6-23-06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-7, 9-12, 14-35 and 47.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

*The drawings submitted on 4-17-02 have been accepted.*

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date 6-27-06
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Lakshmi*  
LAKSHMI CHANNAVAJALA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
AU 1615

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian O'Shaughnessy on 6-23-06.

The application has been amended as follows:

**Specification:**

On page 1, below the title insert "this application is a 371 of PCT/FR00/01971 filed on 07/07/2000."

On page 5, lines 7-8 replace the words "Dimethicone and Simethicone" with "DIMETHICONE and SIMETHICONE" respectively.

On page 6, after line 17, insert the heading "Brief description of Drawings"

**Claims:**

In claim 1, line 2 delete the word "disposed"

In claim 21, line 2 delete the word "disposed"

In claim 2, line 2 insert "(HPMC)" after the word hydroxypropylmethylcellulose

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The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Instant claims are drawn to a pharmaceutical composition in the form of granules, wherein each granule comprises a neutral microgranule on which is a composition comprising micronized fenofibrate, surfactant and a cellulose binder. Instant independent claims require specific percentages of micronized fenofibrate and cellulose binder or their ratios. Prior art of record teaches compositions containing high percentages of micronized fenofibrate in combination with polyvinylpyrrolidone (PVP) and cross-linked PVP as a binder. Where cellulose binder and surfactant are employed in combination with micronized fenofibrate, the prior art of record does not teach the claimed percentages (or ratios) of fenofibrate and the binder. Applicants compared the bioavailability of the fenofibrate formulations (containing claimed percentages of fenofibrate and cellulose binder) with that of the prior art fenofibrate compositions- tablets as well as capsules (containing lower fenofibrate and higher cellulose binder) and showed that the instant compositions achieve higher bioavailability even at a lower dose of fenofibrate than the prior art formulations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lakshmi S. Channavajjala whose telephone number is 571-272-0591. The examiner can normally be reached on 9.00 AM -6.30 PM

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Woodward can be reached on 571-272-8373. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Lakshmi S Channavajjala  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1615  
July 6, 2006